GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:633
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2017
Single Teacher Schools
Dev Km. Sushmita

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that there are a large number of schools in the country are run by a single teacher and if so, the details thereof;
(b) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that schools have the prescribed studentteacher ratio;
(c) whether it is a fact that the teachers of schools also perform duties other than teaching;
(d) if so, the measures taken to ensure that the teachers whose primary job is to teach are able to fulfil their duties without the interruption all other duties allocated to them; and
(e) the initiatives taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to fill vacancies of school teachers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)
(a): As per Unified District Information System of Education (UDISE), 2015-16 (Provisional), there are 97923 single-teacher Government schools at elementary and secondary levels out of a total number of 11.05 lakh schools in the country.
(b) : The recruitment, service conditions and redeployment of teachers are primarily in the domain of respective State Governments and UT Administrations. However, the Central Government provides financial assistance to the State Governments and UT Administrations for additional teachers under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) to maintain appropriate Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR). The PTR at National level for elementary schools is 25:1 and at the secondary it is 26:1 as per U-DISE 2015-16. The PTR at State and UT levels is also satisfactory. It is therefore clear that there are enough teachers and the main issue is their unequal deployment.
(c) & (d): As per the mandate given under Section 27 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, no teacher shall be deployed for any non-educational purpose other than the decennial population census, disaster relief duties or duties relating to elections to the local authority or State legislature or Parliament, as the case may be. The Central Government has decided to undertake a study through National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) to assess time spent by teachers in non-teaching related activities and its adverse impact on education.
(e) The Central Government has been consistently pursuing the matter of expeditious recruitment and redeployment of teachers with States and UTs at various fora.